



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/734,003	12/12/2000	Steven Bertrand		3687

7590 09/29/2006

GREENERG AND LIEBERMAN
314 PHILADELPHIA AVE.
TAKOMA PARK, MD 20912

EXAMINER

BARNEY, SETH E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3752

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/734,003	BERTRAND, STEVEN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	David A. Scherbel	3753	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) David A. Scherbel.

(3) Michael Greenberg.

(2) Steven Bertrand, Inventor.

(4) _____.

Date of Interview: 9/18/2006.

Type: a) ☐ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☒ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1 and 15, as proposed in draft claims, attached.

Identification of prior art discussed: Mullick and Pronk et al.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☒ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Discussed proposed claims 1 and 15 in view of art mentioned above. It was the examiner's position that the references do not show the inlet 31 opening downstream of the restricted area 15 and into the expanded area 16. All references show the additive inlets opening into the Bernoulli restricted regions. Claims would be allowable if rewritten to remove area of language in the claims that the examiner considered to raise questions of new matter, that being, "free and obstructed flow of water" and to more clearly present the language describing the element 15 .

In the Claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A mixing device for receiving water from a shower pipe, comprising:

a first cylindrical region configured to receive water from the shower pipe;
a shelf, at one end of said first cylindrical region, narrowing the diameter of said first cylindrical region, said shelf configured to receive water from said first cylindrical region, wherein said shelf has a planar surface configured to receive water from said first cylindrical region;

an aperture, on said planar surface, at the center of said planar surface;
said aperture configured to receive water from said first cylindrical region;
a second region that then receives the water, with a gradually narrowing diameter permitting free and unobstructed flow of the water therein, said second region configured to receive water from said shelf;

a cylindrical porting region that then receives the water, permitting free and unobstructed flow of the water therein, ~~constricting the end~~ maintaining the final cross sectional area of said second region, said cylindrical porting region configured to receive water from said second region;

a third region that then receives the water, in communication with said porting region, said third region configured to receive water from said cylindrical porting region, said third region having a greater diameter than said portion region;

an inlet in communication with said third region, said inlet positioned after said third region receives the water from said porting region;

a tube attached to said inlet;

a solution apparatus in communication with said tube; and

a point of dispersal of the water, in communication with said third region, said point of dispersal of the water configured to receive water from said third region.

2. (CANCELLED)

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A mixing device as in claim 1, wherein said second region is conical in shape.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A mixing device as in claim 1, wherein said inlet can intake solution.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A mixing device as in claim 1, wherein said porting region increases the velocity of the water.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A mixing device as in claim 1, wherein said third region uses a venturi force to combine solution from said solution apparatus with water exiting from said porting region.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A mixing device as in claim 1, wherein said solution apparatus has at least one solution reservoir.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A mixing device as in claim 7, wherein said at least one solution reservoir holds a solution.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A mixing device as in claim 8, wherein said at least one solution reservoir has at least one aperture for release of said solution.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A mixing device as in claim 9, wherein said at least one aperture is in communication with a supply hose.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A mixing device as in claim 10, wherein said supply hose is attached to said tube, in communication with said inlet.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A mixing device as in claim 8, wherein said solution is soap.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A mixing device as in claim 8, wherein said solution is shampoo.

14. (CANCELLED)

15. (NEW) A mixing device for receiving water from a shower pipe, comprising:

a first cylindrical region configured to receive water from the shower pipe;

a shelf, at one end of said first cylindrical region, narrowing the diameter of said first cylindrical region, said shelf configured to receive water from said first cylindrical region, wherein said shelf has a planar surface configured to receive water from said first cylindrical region;

an aperture, on said planar surface, at the center of said planar surface;

said aperture configured to receive water from said first cylindrical region;

a second region that then receives the water, with a gradually narrowing diameter permitting free and unobstructed flow of the water therein, said second region configured to receive water from said shelf;

a cylindrical porting region that then receives the water, permitting free and unobstructed flow of the water therein, maintaining the final cross sectional area of said second region, said cylindrical porting region configured to receive water from said second region;

a third region that then receives the water, in communication with said porting region, said third region configured to receive water from said cylindrical porting region, said third region having a greater diameter than said portion region;

an inlet in communication with said third region, said inlet positioned after said third region receives the water from said porting region;

a tube attached to said inlet;

a solution apparatus in communication with said tube; and

a fourth region, in communication with and greater than the diameter of said third region, said fourth region configured to receive water from said third region and attach to a conventional showerhead.